

## IN THE CLAIMS

PLEASE AMEND THE CLAIMS AS FOLLOWS:

1. (currently amended) A method for retrieving specified content in a peer-to-peer network, the operating a client to retrieve desired content, said method comprising:

checking the availability of said desired specified content from other clients [[on a]] in the peer-to-peer network, wherein the availability of the specified content is identified in a list of available content and clients, the list provided to clients in the peer-to-peer network, and wherein the list of available content and clients is periodically updated to reflect a current availability of content and clients;

if said content is available from at least one of said other clients, retrieving [[said]] the specified content from one or more of the at least one of said other clients in the via said peer-to-peer network when the specified content is available from one or more of the other clients in the peer-to-peer network as identified by the list of available content and clients; and

if said content is not available from at least one of said other clients, retrieving the specified [[said]] content from a content server in the of said peer-to-peer network when the specified content is not identified on the list of available content and clients.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein retrieving the specified [[said]] content from the one or more of the at least one of said other clients includes comprises:

retrieving a first portion of [[said]] the specified content from a first other client in the of said peer-to-peer network; and

retrieving a second portion of [[said]] the specified content from a second other client of in the of said peer-to-peer network, wherein the first and second other clients are both identified on the list of available content and clients.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a content broker selects the content server based on a cost associated with the content server ~~said content server feeds said content into said peer-to-peer network.~~
4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a content broker selects ~~[[said]]~~ the content server based on the bandwidth at least one of cost and availability of the content server.
5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the specified content includes audio content ~~said desired content comprises a song.~~
6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the specified content includes video content ~~said desired content comprises a news program.~~
7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the specified content includes a static item of content ~~said desired content is retrieved as a plurality of packets.~~
8. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[7]]~~ 1, wherein retrieval of the specified content includes retrieval of a header associated with one or more packets corresponding to the specified content, the header including information identifying the one or more packets further comprising: prior to retrieving said desired content from at least one other client, retrieving a header associated with said plurality of packets from said content server, said header comprising information identifying said packets.
9. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[7]]~~ 8, further comprising: verifying reception of said plurality of packets; and if one of said plurality of packets has been corrupted in reception, repeating retrieval of ~~[[said]] corrupted packets from the one or more packets corresponding to the specified content.~~

10. (currently amended) The method of claim [[7]] 2, further comprising:

determining that a retrieved portion of the specified content is verifying reception of said plurality of packets; and if one of said plurality of packets has been corrupted;

in reception, retrieving an uncorrupted portion of the specified content from another source in the peer-to-peer network, the another source identified on the list of available content and clients packet from another source and replacing said corrupted source packet with said uncorrupted packet.

11.-13. (cancelled)

14. (currently amended) A method for content distribution in a peer-to-peer operating a content distribution network, [[said]] the method comprising:

identifying assigning a plurality of clients [[to]] in a plurality of peer-to-peer network[[s]];

identifying content available at each of the plurality of clients in the peer-to-peer network; and

sending each of [[said]] the plurality of clients [[list]] information to identify network peers of said peers, said list information identifying at least one a dedicated content server and content available at least one client peers, wherein the information is periodically updated to reflect a current availability of content and client peers, whereby specified content is downloaded by a requesting client from one or more of the plurality of clients when the specified content is available from the one or more of the plurality of clients in the peer-to-peer network as identified by the information concerning available content and clients, and the specified content is retrieved from the dedicated content server when the specified content is not identified by the information concerning available content and clients; and distributing content via said plurality of peer-to-peer networks.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein ~~[[said]] the [[list]]~~ information includes content sources ~~comprises a plurality of dedicated content servers~~ ranked by priority.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein ~~[[said]] the~~ priority ranking is based on cost.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein ~~[[said]] the~~ priority ranking is based on available bandwidth.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein ~~[[said]] the~~ priority ranking varies over time of day.

19.-29. (cancelled)

30. (new) The method of claim 1, further comprising acquiring a license for the specified content.

31. (new) The method of claim 1, further comprising authenticating a requesting user prior to granting access to the list of available content and clients.

32. (new) The method of claim 14, further comprising authenticating each of the plurality of clients prior to providing information concerning the current availability of content and client peers.

33. (new) The method of claim 14, further comprising acquiring a license prior to the specific content being downloaded by the requesting client.

34. (new) A system for peer-to-peer distribution of content, the system comprising:
- a content server configured to store content for distribution in a peer-to-peer network;
  - an authentication server configured to authenticate the presence of individual clients requesting the content in the peer-to-peer network;
  - a content broker configured to distribute and update information about the presence of authenticated individual clients in the peer-to-peer network, the content broker further configured to distribute and update information about the availability of content at the content server and authenticated individual clients in the peer-to-peer network; and
  - a license server configured to license content for download by an authenticated individual client from another authenticated client in the peer-to-peer network.
35. (new) The system of claim 34, where the content broker further distributes and updates information concerning bandwidth availability, cost, or availability windows of the content server or individual authenticated clients in the peer-to-peer network.

36. (new) A computer-readable storage medium having embodied thereon a program, the program being executable by a processor to perform a method for retrieving specified content in a peer-to-peer network, the method comprising:

checking the availability of specified content from other clients in the peer-to-peer network, wherein the availability of the specified content is identified in a list of available content and clients, the list provided to clients in the peer-to-peer network, and wherein the list of available content and clients is periodically updated to reflect a current availability of content and clients;

retrieving the specified content from one or more of the other clients in the peer-to-peer network when the specified content is available from one or more of the other clients in the peer-to-peer network as identified by the list of available content and clients; and

retrieving the specified content from a content server in the peer-to-peer network when the specified content is not identified on the list of available content and clients.

37. (new) A computer-readable storage medium having embodied thereon a program, the program being executable by a processor to perform a method for content distribution in a peer-to-peer network, the method comprising:

identifying a plurality of clients in a peer-to-peer network;

identifying content available at each of the plurality of clients in the peer-to-peer network; and

sending each of the plurality of clients information to identify a dedicated content server and content available at client peers , wherein the information is periodically updated to reflect a current availability of content and client peers, whereby specified content is downloaded by a requesting client from one or more of the plurality of clients when the specified content is available from the one or more of the plurality of clients in the peer-to-peer network as identified by the information concerning available content and clients, and the specified content is retrieved from the dedicated content server when the specified content is not identified by the information concerning available content and clients.